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- Escape Plans for Home and Work —see page 10
- Special Needs in an Emergency — see pages 12 and 13
- If you have new contact information, let us know — page 15



*Training Today,
for Tomorrow's Emergencies*

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CITY OF RIVERSIDE CERT NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

Volume II, Issue III



Hello, CERT Members:

On **10/21/10** at **10:21** a.m. millions of Californians will participate in the largest earthquake drill ever! They will "**Drop, Cover, and Hold On**" in the **Great California ShakeOut**. The goal of this drill is to practice what you would do in a major earthquake. As CERT Members you have been trained, but sometimes when the adrenaline kicks in during an emergency, you may not act safely. Practice what you've learned, so you're less likely to be injured.



It's important for you also to encourage your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join you in the **Great ShakeOut** and practice to protect themselves quickly and safely during a major earthquake. Motivate them by asking what they would do the moment the ground started shaking. If it involves a doorway, a triangle, or running - these are not quake-safe actions - so invite them to practice for their safety, too!

Explain to others that in **MOST** situations, they will reduce a chance of injury during an earthquake if they **DROP, COVER, and HOLD ON**:

- ♦ **DROP** down onto your hands and knees (before the earthquake knocks you down).

This position protects you from falling but allows you to still move if necessary.

- ♦ **COVER** your head and neck under a sturdy table or desk. If there is no shelter nearby, get down near an interior wall (or next to low-lying furniture that won't fall on you), and cover your head and neck with your arms and hands.
- ♦ **HOLD ON** to your shelter (or to your head and neck) until the shaking stops. Be prepared to move with your shelter if the shaking moves the shelter.

Lastly, we want **ALL** our CERT members counted as participants in the **Great California ShakeOut**. Register at www.shakeout.org/register and invite others to do the same. If you want to learn more ways you can participate in the **Great ShakeOut** in your home, neighborhood, or workplace, go to www.ShakeOut.org.

Let's join millions of Californians who don't want to leave their safety up to chance!

Gina Perez
Community Preparedness Coordinator
Riverside Fire Department - Office of Emergency Management
(951) 320-8112, gperez@riversideca.gov



City of Riverside Employees of CERT Class #33: Donna Arrechea, Sherri Batey, Carol Blake, Nancy Castillo, Karen Connor, Carol Crouch, Petite Cunningham, Loreelei Gjellhaug, Anna Hauldren, Steven Hooper, Sulyn Jones, Angela King, Robert Lewis, Selena McKay-Davis, Dean Martin, Suzanne Sahagun, Chris Sauve, Cindy Snavely-Pack, Christine Spahr-Maxwell, George Thomas, Colene Torres, Wesley Wisniewski, and Gordon Williams.



Practicing bandaging and dressing.



Practicing with a fire extinguisher.

Transporting a patient is easier when using a buddy system.



The benefits of using leverage to rescue a victim.



CITY EMPLOYEE CERT TRAINING – SEPTEMBER 2010

Riverside City employees were given CERT training in September 2010 to better respond in case of an emergency.

Instructors included:

- ♦ Anthony Coletta, Emergency Manager;
- ♦ John Peurifoy, Fire Captain;
- ♦ Wayne Hess, Firefighter;
- ♦ Walt Bieszczad, Retired Firefighter; and
- ♦ Gina Perez, Community Preparedness Coordinator.



Chris Sauve extinguishes fire, using the buddy system with Colene Torres.



Carol Crouch practices bandaging with Anna Hauldren.

Sulyn Jones, Sherri Batey, and Nancy Castillo practice splinting.



Carol Blake in Disaster Medical training.

CERT team building exercise.



Fire safety training.



SPLINTING, BACK BOARDING, AND TRIAGE



CERT Advanced Training August 18, 2010: Splinting, Back Boarding & Triage. The Riverside Fire Explorers superbly played the role of victims.

CERT Members watch as Michael Barry and Elizabeth Kiehl place Jacob Gamboa on back board for transportation.



Mike Emett and Michael Barry are part of a Rescue Team



Janet Townsend, Elizabeth Kiehl and Mike Emett conduct outdoor training exercise.



Jacob Gamboa, Justn Kiehl, Angela Scarpino, James Carder tend to a Riverside Fire Explorers "victim."

SAVE THE DATE: CERT ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES

The registration form for most CERT classes is at <https://www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/CERT/forms/CertRegisterTrainingBasic.aspx>.

CERT 20-Hour

Basic Course Training

Prepare family, co-workers, and neighbors for disasters with the CERT Basic Course.

Location: Riverside City Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

Dates: (must attend all three)

- ♦ November 12, 2010, Friday
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ♦ November 13, 2010, Saturday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- ♦ November 14, 2010, Sunday
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

To receive the Certificate of Completion, attend all three classes. Registration fee is \$15.00.

CERT Volunteers Needed for CERT/Disaster Preparedness Information Booths

Call (951) 320-8112 or e-mail Gina Perez at gperez@riversideca.gov. Volunteer by staffing a display booth with family and friends for at least two hours at any of the listed events.

You perform an important function by helping spread the word about CERT/Disaster Preparedness at Community Events like those listed.

Wednesday, October 20, 2010
Senior 50 & Better Health Fair
Janet Goeske Center
5257 Sierra Street, Riverside

Senior 50 & Better Health Fair (cont.)

Staff a CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth
8:00 am—3:00 pm
Fire & Police Dept. Disaster Rescue scenario 1:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Advanced CERT Training

Get advanced CERT training or help out by being an "injured victim" during the Basic Course final exercise.

- ♦ **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Training**
\$7.50 fee for American Heart Association - CPR Card
October 16, 2010, Saturday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Riverside City Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

- ♦ **Operational Area Annual CERT Refresher Day**
To register, call 951.955.4700
October 23, 2010, Saturday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Ben Clark Training Center
16902 Davis Avenue
Riverside CA 92518

- ♦ **CERT Members as "Victims" for Final Exercise of CERT Basic Course Training**
November 14, 2010, Sunday
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Riverside Fire Department-EOC
3085 Saint Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

- ♦ **Haz-Mat Disaster Operations**
November 17, 2010, Saturday
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Riverside Fire Department-EOC
3085 Saint Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

October 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- ♦ **Safety Around Dog Searches**
December 8 2010, Wednesday
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Riverside Fire Department-EOC
3085 Saint Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

MARK YOUR CALENDAR CERT Year End Celebration

December 15, 2010

Wednesday

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

The Orangecrest Club

1175 East Alessandro Boulevard

Riverside, CA 92508

Share Your Potluck Dishes!

LEARNING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2010 CHILEAN EARTHQUAKE

In May 2010, Anthony Coletta traveled to Chile as part of a team to review lessons learned from the February 27, 2010 magnitude 8.8 earthquake that occurred there.

He was part of the eight-member Regional Catastrophic Planning Team - Incident Collection and Analysis Team (ICAT), a multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary team that is part of the larger

- ♦ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department;
- ♦ Orange County Fire Authority;
- ♦ Riverside City Office of Emergency Management; and
- ♦ American Red Cross - Los Angeles Chapter.

On February 27, 2010 at 03:34 local time (06:34 Coordinated Universal Time



Anthony Coletta meets with senior Chilean officials on arrival at Santiago, Chile.



US delegation inspects a damaged fire station in Constitución where a fire captain was killed in the 8.8 magnitude earthquake.

[UTC]), Chile was struck with a magnitude 8.8 earthquake lasting over 90 seconds. The earthquake occurred off the coast of Chile and was felt by approximately 80 percent of the country's population. The

cities experiencing the strongest shaking—IX (Ruinous) on the Mercalli intensity scale—were Arauco and Coronel. The earthquake was felt in the capital Santiago at Mercalli intensity scale VIII (Destructive). Tremors were felt in the nearby country of Argentina, including the cities of Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Mendoza, and La Rioja. Tremors were felt as far north as the city of Ica in southern Peru (approximately 2,400 kilometers [1,500 miles]).

combined Los Angeles Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) - Riverside UASI Regional Catastrophic Planning Team working under the auspices of the 2007, 2008, and 2009 FEMA Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant Program. The eight-member ICAT consisted of representatives from the following agencies:

- ♦ Los Angeles Department of Emergency Management;
- ♦ Los Angeles Police Department;
- ♦ Los Angeles Fire Department;



The US delegation is briefed in front of the Alta Rio Building in Concepción. A 15-story building that completely collapsed, 188 people were rescued from this building.

LEARNING FROM THE CHILEAN EARTHQUAKE (CONTINUED)



US delegation is briefed on the Chilean Military rebuilding efforts in Constitución, Chile.

The earthquake also generated a blackout in Chile, affecting 93 percent of Chile's population and lasting for several days in some locations. President Michelle Bachelet declared a "state of catastrophe" and sent military troops to take control of the most affected areas. The death toll increased to 521 victims.

The earthquake triggered several tsunamis (large ocean waves), which devastated several coastal towns in south-central Chile and damaged the port at Talcahuano. Tsunamis caused minor damage in the San Diego area of California and in the Tōhoku region of Japan, where damage to the fisheries business was estimated at ¥6.26 billion (USD\$66.7 million).

The earthquake was so powerful that seismologists estimate that that it may have shortened the length of the day by 1.26 microseconds and moved the earth's axis by 8 centimeters or 2.7 milliarcsseconds (mas). Santiago, the capital of Chile, experienced a displacement of

almost 24 centimeters (10 inches) west, and even Buenos Aires, about 1,350 kilometers (840 mi) from Concepción, shifted 3.9 centimeters (1.5 inches). Chile's territory could have expanded by 1.2 square kilometers (296.5 acres) as a result. The earthquake also caused seiches (waves that oscillate in a landlocked

body of water) to occur in Lake Pontchartrain to the north of New Orleans, located nearly 7,500 kilometers (4,700 miles) from the epicenter of the earthquake.

It is estimated that the earthquake and resulting blackouts, seiches, and tsunamis affected over 2.5M people, destroyed or badly damaged over 500,000 homes, displaced 2.0 million people and caused over \$7 billion in uninsured losses.

Not knowing what we don't know and in the absence of catastrophic earthquakes in our region, we must learn from

other's tragedies and apply those lessons locally to our own situation when we are faced with our "moment of truth."

All the preparations, training, drilling, and exercising comes to a startling and abrupt end on game day, at our moment of truth. The return on investment for all of our preparation efforts will not be fully realized until that moment of truth arrives.

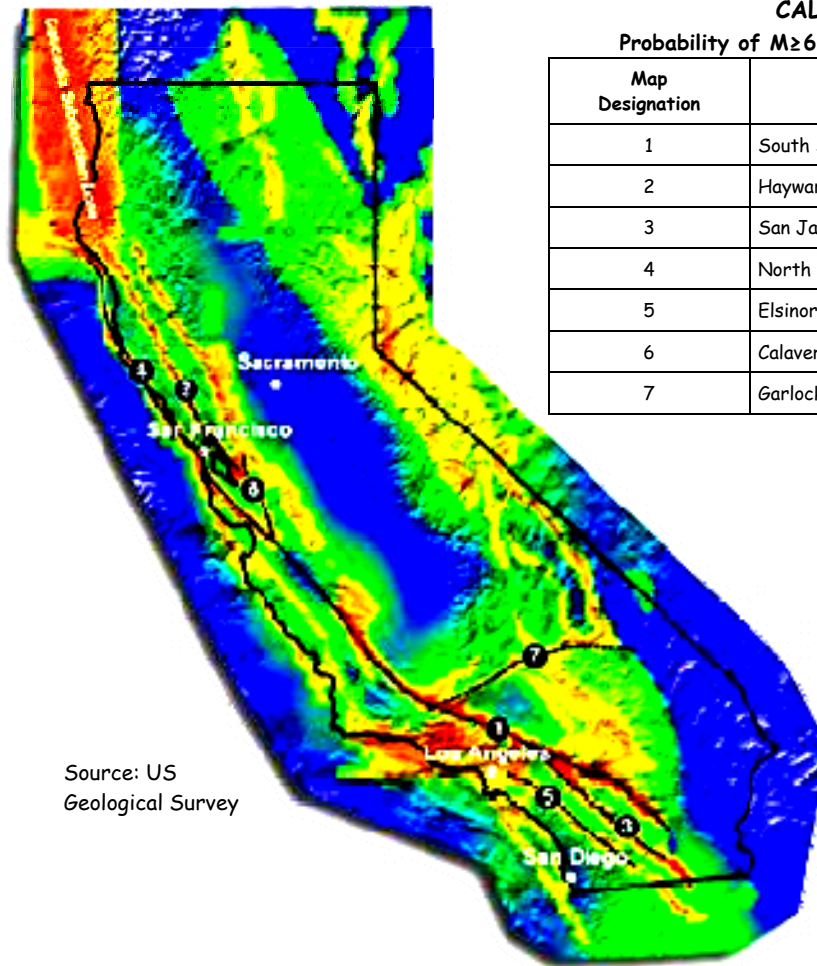
Anthony E. Coletta Jr.
Emergency Services Manager
UASI Administrator

Riverside Fire Department - Office of
Emergency Management
UASI Regional Homeland Security
Program



A damaged bank building in Concepción.

CALIFORNIA'S IMPENDING "BIG ONE" HIGHEST PROBABILITY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Source: US
Geological Survey

CALIFORNIA FAULTS

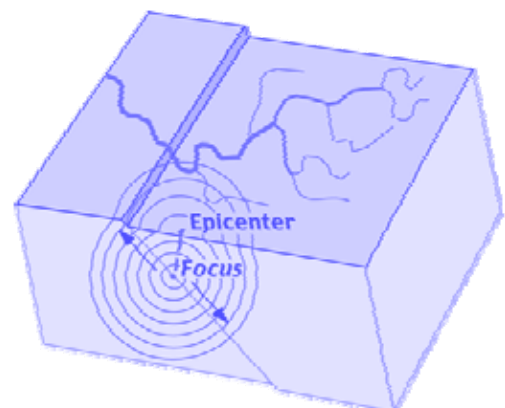
Probability of $M \geq 6.7$ Earthquakes Over Next 30 Years

Map Designation	Fault Name	Probability in Next 30 Years
1	South San Andreas	59%
2	Hayward-Rodgers Creek	31%
3	San Jacinto	31%
4	North San Andreas	21%
5	Elsinore	11%
6	Calaveras	7%
7	Garlock	6%

*The above table shows the probabilities of magnitude-6.7 or greater earthquakes striking seven of California's faults over the next 30 years. The fault with the highest probability is the **southern San Andreas** — 59 percent in the next 30 years.*

Earthquakes Form of Wave Energy

Earthquakes are a form of **wave energy** that is transferred through bedrock. Motion is transmitted from the point of sudden energy release, the **earthquake focus**, as spherical seismic waves that travel in all directions outward (see figure to right). The point on the Earth's surface directly above the focus is termed the **epicenter**.

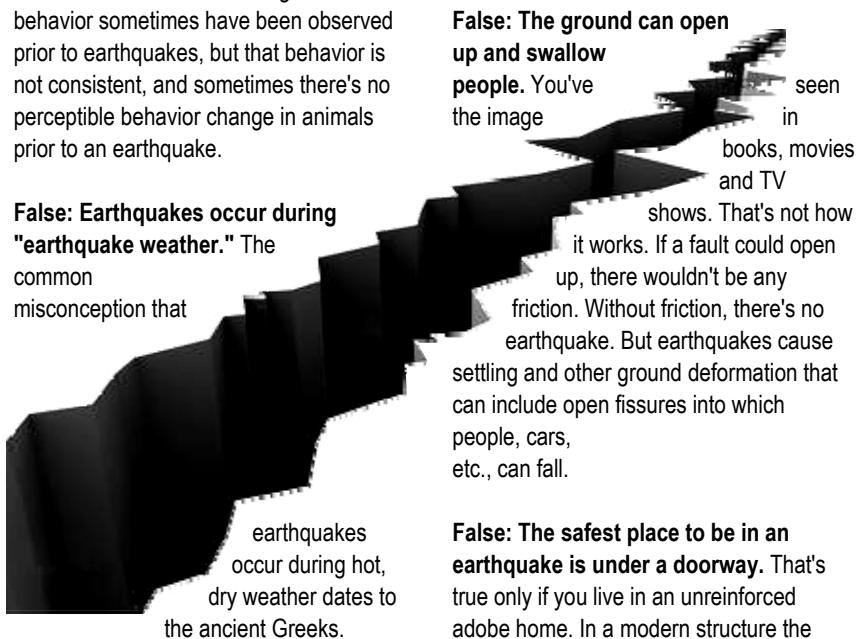


EARTHQUAKE MYTHOLOGY OR ... DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR

If the earth moves beneath our feet, is it because Atlas shrugged? In a bygone era, some folks believed that theory, but even today there are earthquake anecdotes that aren't exactly the stuff of modern science. Let's take a look at them.

False: Dogs and other animals can "sense" when an earthquake is going to strike. It's impossible to determine whether a dog is behaving in an unusual manner because it smells an earthquake coming or a cat across the street. Changes in animal behavior sometimes have been observed prior to earthquakes, but that behavior is not consistent, and sometimes there's no perceptible behavior change in animals prior to an earthquake.

False: Earthquakes occur during "earthquake weather." The common misconception that



earthquakes occur during hot, dry weather dates to the ancient Greeks. Earthquakes take place miles underground, and can happen at any time in any weather.

False: Big earthquakes always occur early in the morning. Just as earthquakes don't care about the weather, they can't tell time, either. The 1940 Imperial Valley quake was at 9:36 p.m., the 1989 Loma Prieta quake occurred at 5:02 p.m. People who perpetuate the time and weather myths tend to remember the earthquakes that fit the pattern and forget about the ones that don't.

False: California could fall into the sea because of an earthquake. The San Andreas Fault System is the dividing line between two tectonic plates. The Pacific Plate is moving in a northwesterly direction relative to the North American plate. The movement is horizontal, so while Los Angeles is moving toward San Francisco, California won't sink. However, earthquakes can cause landslides, slightly changing the shape of the coastline.

False: The ground can open up and swallow people. You've seen the image in books, movies and TV shows. That's not how it works. If a fault could open up, there wouldn't be any friction. Without friction, there's no earthquake. But earthquakes cause settling and other ground deformation that can include open fissures into which people, cars, etc., can fall.

False: The safest place to be in an earthquake is under a doorway. That's true only if you live in an unreinforced adobe home. In a modern structure the doorway is no stronger than the rest of the building. Actually, you're more likely to be hurt (by the door swinging wildly) in a doorway. And in a public building, you could be in danger from people trying to hurry outside. If you're inside, get under a table or desk and hang on to it.

False: Small earthquakes keep big ones from happening. Each magnitude level represents about 30 times more energy released. It takes 30 magnitude 3 earthquakes to equal the energy released in a magnitude 4, 900 magnitude 3

earthquakes to equal a magnitude 5 and 729 billion magnitude 3 earthquakes to equal a single magnitude 9. So while a small quake may temporarily ease stress on a fault line, it does not prevent a large temblor.

False: We have good building codes, so all buildings must be good. That's true IF you're talking about buildings constructed under current building codes. In the case of older buildings, retrofitting (bringing the building up to modern standards) is up to the building's owners. In areas of California prone to seismic activity, there are plenty of buildings that were built under older codes.

False: Earthquakes are becoming more frequent. Research shows that earthquakes of magnitude 7.0 or greater have remained fairly constant throughout the century and have actually decreased in recent years. Since there are a greater number of seismological centers and instruments capable of locating many small earthquakes that went undetected in earlier years, it may seem as if there are more.

False: There's nothing I can do about earthquakes, so why worry about them? It's true that earthquakes can't be stopped, but you can be prepared. You can prepare an earthquake kit (food, water, flashlight, etc.), practice "duck, cover and hold" drills at home with your family and at work, and develop an earthquake plan (where would you meet family members if you weren't together when an earthquake hit?).

Sources: California Geological Survey/California Geology, USGS, Arkansas Center for Earthquake Education and Technology Transfer, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, FEMA, National Science Foundation, Southern California Earthquake Center, American Red Cross, Center for Earthquake Research and Information/University of Memphis.

ESCAPE PLAN? MEETING PLACES?

Do you have an escape plan that your loved ones have practiced?

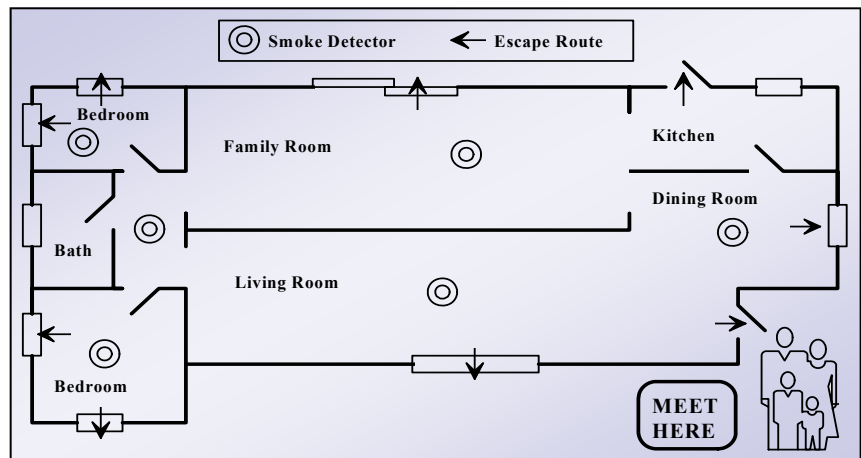
Do you have planned meeting places? An example of an escape plan is shown here. An escape route should be shown from every room of the house or every area of the workplace.

Follow the local evacuation routes, and locate the nearest shelter to ensure that when a disaster occurs, everyone knows what to do.

Plan how your family will stay in contact if separated by disaster. Pick two meeting places. One at a location a safe distance from your home in case of fire, and one at a place outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.

Choose an out-of-state friend as a "check-in contact" for everyone to call. In addition, complete the following steps:

- ♦ Post emergency telephone numbers by every phone.
- ♦ Show responsible family members how and when to shut off water, gas, and electricity at main switches.
- ♦ Install a smoke alarm on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms.



EMERGENCY TELEPHONE STRATEGIES

Communication systems are often the first to be affected during any emergency or disaster. Regular telephones and cell phones will probably not be available when large numbers of people attempt to make calls at the same time, and damaged telephone equipment or facilities could further limit telephone access. **Stay off the phones unless you have a life-threatening emergency!**

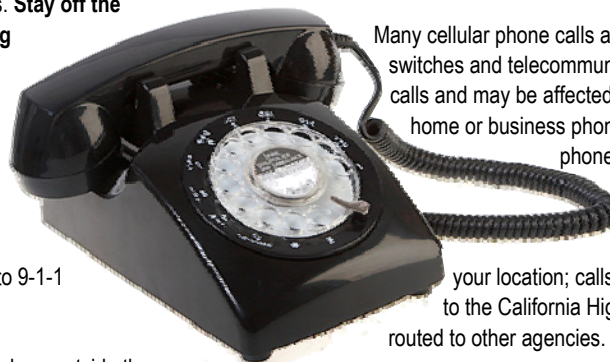
Telecommunication networks are designed to handle calls from only a fraction of the population at any given time. Once system capacity is exceeded, access to *local* call service (i.e., dial tone) can be delayed or unavailable. As a result, immediate access to 9-1-1 may not be possible.

If you are able to get a dial tone, calls to numbers outside the area affected by the disaster will be easier to make, so designate a contact outside the local calling area where you and your loved ones can check in and receive messages. Make sure everyone carries that number with them.

If the power is out, cordless telephones will not work. Keep at least one back-up phone that can be plugged directly into a wall jack.

Do not call 9-1-1 for information about the disaster—listen to a battery operated radio.

If you do have an emergency and can't get a dial tone, **do not click the receiver**—each time you click the receiver your call goes to the back of the queue for a dial tone. If a dial tone is not received within 60 seconds, the system may be overwhelmed.



Many cellular phone calls are routed through the same switches and telecommunication networks as land-line calls and may be affected by the same factors as your home or business phone. Calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone within Riverside will connect you to Riverside Police Department dispatch; but you may need to advise them of your location; calls made in outlying areas will go to the California Highway Patrol and may then be routed to other agencies.

If you have an emergency, call 9-1-1 from a land-line. If you are calling from a cell phone, call directly to your local dispatch center at (951) 787-7912.

Be sure that your family disaster plan anticipates that you may not be able to reach your family members by phone. Designate two meeting places—one in your neighborhood and one away from your home in case it is not accessible.

Other valuable information is available at www.readyriverside.com

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH - RIVERSIDE EMPLOYEE DISASTER KIT FAIR – SEPT 2010



CERT Volunteers Ted Tansy, Mario Rivera Jr., and Bob Snedaker at National Preparedness Month Employee Disaster Kit Fair.

*CERT
Volunteer
Mario
Rivera Jr.,
distributes
information
to
employees.*



Riverside City Employee Disaster Kit Fair.



WHAT SHOULD BE IN YOUR DISASTER KIT?

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide campaign focused on encouraging Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities.

This means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least 3 days. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it might take days. In addition, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, or even a week or longer.

Basic Emergency Supply Kit

- ♦ Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- ♦ Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- ♦ Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- ♦ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ♦ First aid kit
- ♦ Whistle to signal for help
- ♦ Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ♦ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ♦ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ♦ Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)

- ♦ Local maps
- ♦ Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Additional Items to Consider

- ♦ Prescription medications and glasses
- ♦ Infant formula and diapers
- ♦ Pet food and extra water for your pet
- ♦ Copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- ♦ Cash or traveler's checks and change
- ♦ Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- ♦ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person.
- ♦ Complete change of clothing, including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes.
- ♦ Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (to disinfect water).
- ♦ Fire Extinguisher
- ♦ Matches in a waterproof container
- ♦ Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- ♦ Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- ♦ Paper and pencil
- ♦ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Find out how to keep food safe during and after an emergency by visiting: <http://www.foodsafety.gov/keep/>

SPECIAL NEEDS IN AN EMERGENCY

Assisting People who are Visually Impaired or Blind

Visual impairment and blindness are different. Some people who are "legally blind" have some sight, while others are totally blind.

- ♦ Announce your presence, speak out, and then enter the area.
- ♦ Speak naturally and directly to the individual. **DO NOT SHOUT.**
- ♦ Don't be afraid to use words like "see," "look," or "blind."
- ♦ State the nature of the emergency and offer them your arm. As you walk, advise them of any obstacles.
- ♦ Offer assistance but let the person explain what help is needed.
- ♦ Do not grab or attempt to guide without first asking.
- ♦ Let the person grasp your arm or shoulder lightly for guidance.
- ♦ They may choose to walk slightly behind you to gauge your body's reactions to obstacles.
- ♦ Be sure to mention stairs, doorways, narrow passages, ramps, etc.
- ♦ When guiding someone to a seat, place the person's hand on the back of the chair.
- ♦ If leading several individuals with visual impairments, ask them to guide the person behind them.
- ♦ Remember that you'll need to communicate any written information orally.
- ♦ When you have reached safety, orient the person to the location and ask if any further assistance is needed.
- ♦ If the person has a service animal, don't pet it unless the person says it is ok to do so. Service animals must be evacuated with the person.

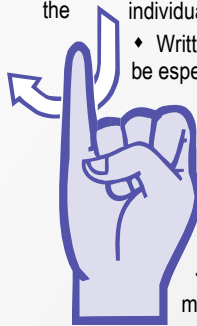


Assisting People Who are Hard of Hearing or Deaf

There is a difference between hard of hearing and deaf. People who are hearing impaired vary in the extent of hearing loss they experience. Some are completely deaf, while others can hear almost normally with hearing aids.

Hearing aids do not guarantee that the person can hear and understand speech. They increase volume, not necessarily clarity.

- ♦ If possible, flick the lights when entering an area or room to get their attention.
- ♦ Establish eye contact with the individual, not with the interpreter, if one is present.
- ♦ Use facial expressions and hand gestures as visual cues.
- ♦ Check to see if you have been understood and repeat if necessary.
- ♦ Offer pencil and paper. Write slowly and let the individual read as you write.
- ♦ Written communication may be especially important if you are unable to understand the person's speech.
- ♦ Do not allow others to interrupt you while conveying the emergency information.
- ♦ Be patient – the person may have difficulty understanding the urgency of your message.



- ♦ Provide the person with a flashlight to signal their location in the event they are separated from the rescue team. This will facilitate lip-reading or signing in the dark.
- ♦ While written communication should work for many people, others may not understand English well enough to understand written instructions. Keep instructions simple, in the present tense and use basic vocabulary.

Assisting People with Service Animals

Traditionally, the term "service animal" referred to seeing-eye dogs. However, today there are many other types of service animals. Remember – a service animal is not a pet.

- ♦ Do not touch or give the animal food or treats without the permission of the owner.
- ♦ When a dog is wearing its harness, it is on duty. In the event you are asked to take the dog while assisting the individual, hold the leash and not the harness.
- ♦ Plan to evacuate the animal with the owner. Do not separate them!
- ♦ Service animals are not registered and there is no proof that the animal is a service animal. If the person tells you it is a service animal, treat it as such. However, if the animal is out of control or presents a threat to the individual or others, remove it from the site.



continued on next page



SPECIAL NEEDS (CONTINUED)

Assisting People with Service Animals (continued)

- ♦ A person is not required to give you proof of a disability that requires a service animal. You should accept the claim and treat the animal as a service animal. If you have doubts, wait until you arrive at your destination and address the issue with the supervisor in charge.
- ♦ The animal need not be specially trained as a service animal. People with psychiatric and emotional disabilities may have a companion animal. These are just



as important to them as a service animal is to a person with a physical disability – please be understanding and treat the animal as a service animal.

- ♦ A service animal must be in a harness or on a leash, but need not be muzzled.

Assisting People with Mobility Impairments

Always ask the person how you can help before beginning any assistance. Even though it may be important to evacuate quickly, respect their independence to the extent possible. Don't make assumptions about the person's abilities.

- ♦ Ask if they have limitations or problems that may affect their safety.
- ♦ Some people may need assistance getting out of bed or out of a chair, but CAN then proceed without assistance. Ask!

Here are some other questions you may find

helpful.

- ♦ “Are you able to stand or walk without the help of a mobility device like a cane, walker or a wheelchair?”
- ♦ “You might have to [stand] [walk] for quite awhile on your own. Will this be ok? Please be sure and tell someone if you think you need assistance.”
- ♦ “Do you have full use of your arms?”
- ♦ When carrying the person, avoid putting pressure on his or her arms, legs or chest. This may result in spasms, pain, and may even interfere with their ability to breathe.
- ♦ Avoid the “fireman’s carry.” Use the one or two person carry techniques.

Crutches, Canes or Other Mobility Devices

- ♦ A person using a mobility device may be able to negotiate stairs independently. One hand is used to grasp the handrail while the other hand is used for the crutch or cane. Do not interfere with the person’s movement unless asked to do so, or the nature of the emergency is such that absolute speed is the primary concern. If this is the case, tell the person what you’ll need to do and why.
- ♦ Ask if you can help by offering to carry the extra crutch.
- ♦ If the stairs are crowded, act as a buffer and run interference for the person.

When evacuating Wheelchair Users.



special techniques to transfer from one chair to another. Depending on their upper body strength, they may be able to do much of the work themselves.



Carrying techniques for Non-Motorized Wheelchairs

The In-chair carry is the most desirable technique to use, if possible.

One-person assist

- ♦ Grasp the pushing grips, if available. Stand one step above and behind the wheelchair. Tilt the wheelchair backward until a balance (fulcrum) is achieved. Keep your center of gravity low. Descend frontward. Let the back wheels gradually lower to the next step.

Two-person assist

- ♦ Position the second rescuer: Stand in front of the wheelchair and face the wheelchair. Stand one, two, or three steps down (depending on the height of the other rescuer). Grasp the frame of the wheelchair. Push into the wheelchair. Descend the stairs backwards.

Motorized Wheelchairs

Motorized wheelchairs may weigh over 100 pounds unoccupied, and may be longer than manual wheelchairs. Lifting a motorized wheelchair and user up or down stairs requires two to four people.

People in motorized wheelchairs probably know their equipment much better than you do! Before lifting, ask about heavy chair parts that can be temporarily detached, how you should position yourselves, where you should grab hold, and what, if any, angle to tip the chair backward.

- ♦ Turn the wheelchair’s power off before lifting it.
- ♦ Most people who use motorized wheelchairs have limited arm and hand motion. Ask if they have any special requirements for being transported down the stairs.

SMOKE ALARM RECOMMENDATIONS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, OCTOBER 3 TO 9, 2010

The nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is promoting "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!" as the theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 3 to 9. NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for 88 years, and the City of Riverside supports this campaign locally.

Smoke Alarms: Up, Down and All Around

Many homes in the City of Riverside may not have any smoke alarms, not enough smoke alarms, alarms that are too old, or alarms that are not working.

Working smoke alarms are needed in every home, on every level, outside each sleeping area, and inside each bedroom. And, if a smoke alarm is 10 years old or older, it needs to be replaced.

Smoke Alarms — Difference between Life and Death in a Fire

NFPA statistics show that working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half. But they must be working properly. Data shows that many homes have smoke alarms that aren't working or are not maintained properly, usually because of missing, disconnected, or dead batteries. Roughly two-thirds of all home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

The Riverside Fire Department wants residents to learn more about the power of smoke alarms; newer options for installing and maintaining them properly, and ultimately, how to better protect their loved ones from fire.

Interconnected Smoke Alarms the Best

The NFPA and the Riverside Fire Department agree that interconnected smoke alarms offer the best

protection — when one sounds, they all do. This is particularly important in larger or multi-story homes, where the sound from distant smoke alarms may not be loud enough to provide proper warning.

Call to Action

"Most people have a sense of complacency about smoke alarms because they already have one in their homes. Fire Prevention Week provides an excellent opportunity to re-educate people about smoke alarms, new technologies, and expanded options for installation and maintenance," says Judy Comoletti, division manager for NFPA public education.

"Ultimately, we want this year's campaign to serve as a call to action for households nationwide to

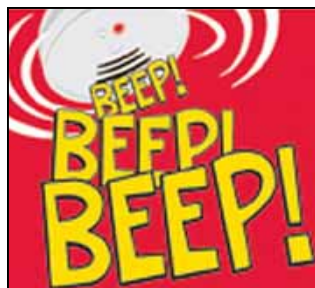
inspect their homes to ensure that their families have the full smoke alarm protection that's recommended."

Tips for Smoke Alarms

The City of Riverside Fire Department offers the following tips for making sure smoke alarms are maintained and working properly:

- ♦ Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button, and make sure everyone in your home knows their sound.
- ♦ If an alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- ♦ Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they're 10 years old (or sooner) if they do not respond properly when tested.
- ♦ Never remove or disable a smoke alarm.

To find out more, visit NFPA's Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.



Fire Prevention Week • October 2010

Smoke Alarms:
A sound you can live with



**CITY OF RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
RESPONSE
TEAM**

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ALMOST 700 PEOPLE CERT TRAINED!

With Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Class #33, the Riverside Fire Dept. has trained 683 people in CERT to date!

We're growing and spreading the word about CERT training. Thank you for your participation in this important training.

As you know, CERT members come from neighborhood, workplace, or other community organizations. Members join because they want to learn how to better prepare for hazards that threaten their homes and communities. They want to protect their families, themselves, and their communities.

The CERT Program began by training community members for earthquake response operations. Under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the CERT Program has grown to cover all types of disasters in communities around the country.

As a CERT member, you become an active participant in learning about hazards and preparing for them.

Have You Been With CERT for More than 5 Years?

Disaster Service Worker forms signed at the time of CERT Training expire at 5 years. A new Disaster Service Worker signed form is required before CERT members can participate in any training activities or events.

If it's been 5 years since your Basic Course, contact Norma Pagan at npagan@riversideca.gov to complete a new form.

CERT Year End Celebration

December 15, 2010, Wednesday

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

The Orangecrest Club

1175 East Alessandro Boulevard

Riverside, CA 92508

Share Your Potluck Dishes!

Call (951) 320-8100 to RSVP

IMPORTANT



Have you moved or changed your email address or phone number?



Give us a call (951.320.8100)
or send an email
(rivcitycert@riversideca.gov)
and update your contact
information.